

KHIMKI

Moscow district

SCHOOL FOR PREPARATION OF NON-RUSSIAN COMMUNIST AGENTS IN THE USSR - KHIMKI CAMP

Name - official: Oslag 288/C
 - unofficial: "School of the Collaborators of the West".

Reported in existence: post-World War II

Recruitment of students. In prisoner of war camps and Soviet bloc countries, Soviet authorities are told to select a certain number of candidates as prospective agents without informing those so selected. These candidates are secretly watched for a considerable time. If a candidate appears satisfactory, he is approached and instructed to enter the ranks of the "Fighters for the Just Order". Failure to pass the observation period implies quick liquidation. In selection of candidates preference is given to: Communists, ex-members of the NSDAP and Hitler Youth, ex-Storm Troopers, persons without political or moral principles. Candidates selected are taken to "preliminary camps" or "special camps" where they are subject to additional selection methods, and are given courses in political science which usually last six months. These camps are reportedly located near Voronezh, Smolensk, Ladoga, Sinferopol, Nizhni Novgorod, and Minsk. The one near Minsk is known as Special Camp 192/111. After six months of training in Special Camps, candidates who are "graduated" go to a secret camp near Khimki. Candidates considered "auspicious" during the preliminary period disappear. Others not sent to Khimki return to their respective CP's for employment as their leaders see fit.

Physical description and security measures. Students live in c. 150 wooden buildings; official personnel, teachers and guards live in c. 11 wooden houses. There is a club, a movie house, hot baths, laundry, kitchen, etc. The camp is guarded by MVD troops; interior protection is provided by German students. There is strict vigilance and it is almost impossible to leave or enter the camp. Only the camp commander can grant such permission. At a distance of two kilometers from the camp it is surrounded by a series of watch towers and frequent signs stating that unknown persons will be shot without warning. There is also a double line of barbed wire fence and at each of the four corners there is a watch-tower 15 meters high. The staff quarters is separated from the students by a high fence, and the various courses within the camp are likewise separated from each other. Students' living conditions are excellent; food is varied and abundant. Elementary students are housed in large dormitories (25-30 in a room) while advanced students have considerable privacy in their living arrangements.

Students. Normal quota: 12000. Approximately composed of the following nationality groups:

Germans & Austrians	7,000	Bulgarians & Croats	400
Italians	2,000	Rumanians	500
Hungarians	600	Czechs	100
Finns	100	Others	1,000

Students use pseudonyms as designated by instructors. Knowledge of true names is strictly forbidden. When passing from one course to another the students' pseudonyms are changed to accustom them to living with a false name. Relationship of primary students with advanced students is not allowed.

Instructors. Largely representatives of same national groups as students. Soviet specialists only are in charge of "technical" courses such as Espionage and sabotage.

At the end of World War II, fnu FICK and fnu GOTTWALD were instructors. Among the principal instructors in 1948 were Max DREWS, German; fnu SCHLESSINGER, Viennese; Ferens GROV, Hungarian; and Anton BUKACH, Rumanian. Instructors normally use pseudonyms.

For discipline, the camp commander (an MVD official) is changed every 3 or 4 months. This eliminates chance of friendship between commander and instructors or students. MVD guards are allowed no contact with students. Servants (students with unsatisfactory marks) are also not encouraged to become acquainted with the students.

The instructors are known only by cover names which are changed periodically.
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KHIMKI (Continued)

Courses. There are three courses: preparatory, intermediate, and special. Duration of the entire instruction is 18 months. Students are taught in their native tongue. Russian is studied only by those requesting it.

Preparatory Course: Leads to moral decline of the student. Mutual accusations, provocations, and espionage are the basis of student relationships during this period. Students frequently disappear without explanation. Course lasts 10 months and concentrates on political education. History of Communism, significance of world Communism, history of the USSR and the satellites, and criticism of programs of other political ideologies, *political indoctrination, history of the Red Army (M.B. info)*

Intermediate Course: Lasts 3 months. Students have more freedom of action. They may visit the camp library and take part in sports. *Rarely do students disappear in this course or the final one..* Stress in this course is on advanced political education and a study of military and civic matters. Students in the intermediate course wear a red band on the left arm. *Intensified indoctrination along lines outlined in the preparatory course (M.B. info)*

Special Course. Lasts 5 months. Movies are shown and practical application is given of the following subjects:

- a. propaganda and agitation.
- b. military, economic, and political espionage.
- c. organization of secret services within enemy countries.
- d. counter-espionage.
- e. special courier systems - with practical application outside camp area.
- f. individual instruction of students as deemed necessary by instructors.

Students in this course wear two red bands on left arm.

g. espionage techniques.

Some students remain for "postgraduate" study, particularly specialists such as chemists, technicians, and language experts, *on outstanding students. These indiv. receive further training in economic & scientific espionage (M.B. info).*

Use of graduates. Students who finish these courses are transferred to some place to enter active service. Their destinations are kept secret. They are frequently sent to SVU, Berlin, SVU, Vienna, the headquarters for the secret services in West European countries, or to various Soviet diplomatic establishments. They are expected to report to Soviet authorities info regarding the work of the CP's to which they may belong. Occasionally they are recalled to the USSR for official vacation periods and to undergo more detailed preparation.

REFERENCE: [REDACTED]

(Spelled LIMKI in this report)

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